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# The Broadcast Engineers' Journal



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Vol. 11, No. 1

JANUARY, 1944

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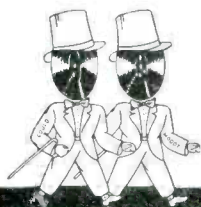
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# THE BROADCAST ENGINEERS' JOURNAL

Contents Copyright, 1944, by The Broadcast Engineers' Journal

Volume 11, No. 1



January, 1944

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## THE BROADCAST ENGINEERS' JOURNAL

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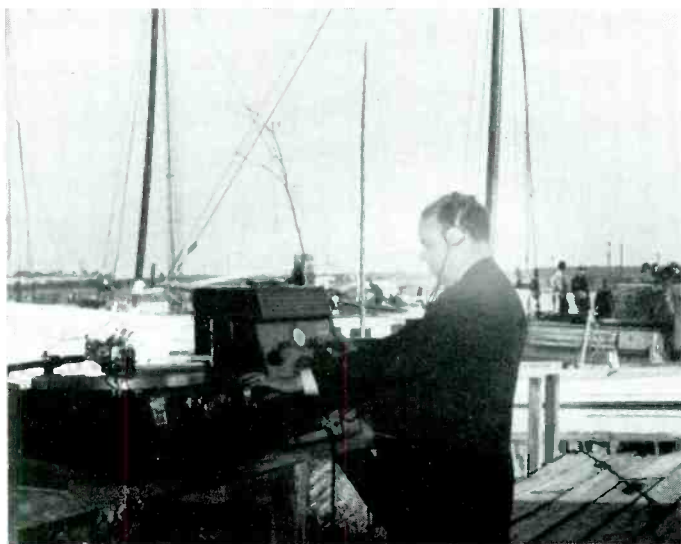


# New York News

By George F. Anderson, Jr.

**C**HRISTMAS has come and gone and another year has started on the first of twelve laps.

In the past year, many events have taken place. For the World, Africa was taken from the Germans, Italy invaded, Berlin a bombed shell of a city, and an invasion of the continent imminent. For we of NABET, there has been a National Convention, a new contract signed with NBC and BNCI but not approved as yet by the WLB, a higher Federal income tax and higher NABET National dues. Old familiar faces leaving and being replaced by new faces, and they in turn leaving. Visitors from far and near, good news and bad news and as for 1944, only time will tell.



Neal McCarroll, NBC recording engineer rides gain on oyster farming broadcast at Bivalve, New Jersey, on Delaware Bay. McCarroll travels over 15,000 miles annually with Mert Emmert to transcribe on-the-spot features for the latter's daily "Modern Farmer" program over WCAF.

The BNCI has obtained the Ritz Theatre, the installation work is completed, and several shows a week originate from there for the BNCI.

Among returning travelers from abroad is Lt. Victor U. Tervola, formerly of NY Recording. Vic has been in Africa for the past year with the Psychological Warfare Branch, and he has returned to the States for three months. While on the Dark Continent, Vic was in charge of construction and operation of several transmitters, from microphone to antenna, and the training of personnel to operate them. Vic met many former NBCites while abroad and also worked with quite a few of them.

A card was received from Lt. Harold Flood with his new APO number and we gather from it that he is in London. It is reported that he will be working with the radio unit headed by Major Nussbaum, also a former NBCite.

The special Christmas shows that were presented Friday, Dec. 24th and Saturday, Dec. 25th resulted in busy days for SEs Harry Hiller and Raymond Swanecamp. Harry was

on the Friday show which NBC decided to do on Thursday, Dec. 23d. This show involved feeding the four major networks—NBC, CBS, MBS, and BNCI. The show ended with the presentation by transcription on the networks, of the Christmas speech by President Roosevelt. Another special feature, which unfortunately was not presented due to lack of time on the program, was a scheduled pickup from Alaska. By special permission of the War Department, NBC was granted the right to use the longest telephone line in the world, stretching from Washington to Alaska, 6400 miles of telephone wire. This would have been the first time a radio program would have been heard in the States, from Alaska, by wire line.

Saturday's program, engineered by Ray Swanecamp, also featured several interesting events, among which was a two-way conversation between a GI in Algiers and another on the beach of Guadalcanal with both ends of the conversation being heard here in the US. Incidentally, both programs were produced by George Creamer of NY Production.

For the benefit of those of you owning midget radios with defunct tubes in them here are a few tips on interchanging tubes.

The 6J7 and 6K7 are interchangeable, as are 6SJ7 - 6SK7 - 6SD7 and the 6SH7.

In the twelve volt series the 12J7 and 12K7 may be swapped and the 12R7 may be used in place of a 12Q7. The same applies to the 12SJ7 and 12SK7, and also the 12SR7 may be used in place of the 12SQ7. If the 12SA7 is NG, by using a socket adapter and filament resistor a 7A8 may be used in its place. Is the 35Z5 shot, well try tying pin numbers 2 and 3 together, of course the pilot light will not work but the set will. If a pilot light is desired, connect a 30 ohm 5 watt resistor between pins No. 2 and 3. This will produce the desired voltage drop to operate the pilot light.

That's all for now.



Lt. Jim Coleman, USMC, former NBC-NY MC, sends in this photo of himself in training, and sends his regards to all.

George Butler, MC, has returned to work here in NY after spending some time in Washington installing recording equipment. After his return from Washington, George went home for a while to enjoy (?) the attack of flu which he had contracted. He is now his jovial self again, and taking care of complaints of trouble in studios.

# Washington News

## WRC — WMAL

By R. E. Shenton

SEVERAL months ago, a picture appeared on the bulletin board of the Washington Master Control Room. It showed two attractive young ladies in the process of spinning records and riding gain in an equally attractive control room, not specifically identified. Above the picture was written in the handwriting of one obviously neurotic the single word LOOK!! If ever brevity was the key to emphasis, this was it. The engineers, one and all looked. A few remarked about the features of the depicted damosels, but as a rule, the typical reaction was a shudder, a muttered skepticism of "it can't happen here," and a 95 percent dismissal of the incident from the mind. Then one day Dodd Boyd, studio engineer and father, journeyed to the induction center and didn't come back. But Miss Ermadine Metz, studio engineer, did.

To the perspicacious student of English, she actually did come back, as implied at first ambiguously above, because Mr. Cooper, chief engineer, had previously interviewed her.

Many speculated as to just how Miss Metz would be received into a totally male community, but each found that despite a bumper crop of cartoons, each luridly telling about havoc wrought by engineeresses, such work as SE's are wont to do can be quite capably handled by the fairer sex.

And so the happy ending: Ermadine is accepted, quite willingly, by the boys, and every day she becomes more and more just one of the gang. In fact, in addition to the customary Yuletide decorations in the reception room, the Master Control was adorned by a bit of mistletoe, craftily hung from a light near the door. Things ain't what they used to be, but it ain't bad. . . .

While on the subject of Christmas, although Washington didn't have a white one, it sure did have a slippery one. Just about at sundown, a freezing rain left the streets with a glassy coating, making any sort of travel extremely precarious. Migrant employees from the studios were fortunately able to get home, even a few who live out in the suburbs and in Arlington, but Harold Yates of the WRC transmitter didn't fare quite so well. After driving to his home in nearby Maryland at a speed of about 10 miles per hour, traveling most of the way in second gear, and even putting the car in its garage, Harold slipped on the icy steps of his home, and fell to the ground, breaking an arm in several places and fracturing a few ribs. The gang all expresses sympathy for such an unwelcome Christmas present, and hopes that he'll soon be on duty at the ether buster again.

We're glad to report that there weren't any other casualties over the holidays (we use this term reminiscently) even among the fortunate few who had four day weekends brought about by watch rotations. Mention should be made, however, of the flu epidemic which has made itself quite obnoxiously felt among local circles. Quite a few of the engineers have been invaded by the dread disease, including "Patty" Birgfeld, faithful engineering secretary, who celebrated her Christmas Day while under its mighty influence.

Perhaps we were a trifle hasty when we reported no casualties during the holidays; after all, "Gus" Lynch is rather conclusively lost to NBC for the duration, at least,



(Left to right) Lt. A. R. MacGonegal, USNR Air Station, Patuxent River, Md., former TC, WMAL. Lt. W. S. Carson, USNR, temporary duty, Patuxent River, also SC, WRC. Lt. Com. Stanley L. Peck, USNR, temporary duty, Patuxent River. Lt. W. L. Godwin, USNR, Patuxent River, Md., former SE, WRC. Radio Electrician Ralph L. Hamill, USNR, Patuxent River, former Senior Control Supervisor, WRC. After dinner NBC get-together at Batchelor Officers' Headquarters, Naval Air Station, Patuxent River, Maryland.

as he became Private U. L. Lynch just in time to make the deadline of this issue. Gus, incidentally, is one of the newer engineers, having come to NBC Washington from WWDC, also in Washington, at which station he was chief engineer. It should also be noted that Private Lynch is one of those much discussed married fellers who just recently felt the sting of a 1A classification. "Mac" McCollom, another of the non-bachelors, also recently went through the 1A mill, but the Army said no, so Mac has resumed his studio engineering duties.

Quite a few of the militarized and migratory engineers have dropped in to say hello during the past weeks. Dorson Ullman, now at the New York studios, manages to get down to Washington quite frequently. He was particularly pleased with the new Recording Room, details of which are forthcoming next month, if all goes well. Lt. Sam Newman of the Signal Corps also arrived after spending quite a spell in an Army hospital recuperating from some of the "get the message through" boys' better commando training of the wired for sound type. Navy Lieutenant Walter Godwin, now stationed at Patuxent River, Maryland, stayed only long enough to contribute the picture which is printed somewhere among these pages. Please look at length and enjoy aforementioned picture, as it went through an impressive Naval process before it could be cleared for release and publication. Dodd Boyd, now Private Boyd of the USAAF, also returned to the studios while on emergency furlough granted in order that he might see his newly arrived offspring. Congratulations and best wishes are definitely in order here.

My regular reader of this column (bless him) will remember lengthy discussions of the WMAL (and WRC, for that matter) victory gardens which appeared during the summer months. Well, the WMAL plot continues, and has been augmented by an orchard, boasting a fine variety of nearly every imaginable type of fruit tree. We suggest that you get your orders for produce in early, as Mr. Hunter expects tremendous response to this new venture. The trees were provided, according to Chief Hunter, by the Evening Star Broadcasting Co., owners of WMAL.

We would be very pleased if we were able to announce the birth of a son or daughter to Mr. and Mrs. E. W. "Hand Me A Record" McGinley, but unfortunately the stork has developed an allergy to late 1943 deliveries, and the event will come in the annals of '44. Disappointed at such non-cooperation, we are forced to fold up the mill and wish everybody a successful and feedbackless New Year from ye sub-editor, plus the entire Washington gang.



# 116-03 91st Avenue

By Bert Pruitt

**T**HE Flying Fortress is a graceful beauty. She's the Queen of the Sky!

But she wouldn't be if it weren't for the fact that she has a skipper to point her nose through the clouds. The Flying Fortress, in that respect, is somewhat like the Broadcast Engineers' Journal; The Journal rules supreme as a technical publication representing the men in Radio Broadcast Stations. But the Journal, as well as the Flying Fortress, cannot run itself. It would flounder, like a finless fish, if it didn't have someone to take the literary wheel and point the Journal's nose straight through the storms and typhoons that are common in the seas of Misspelled Words and Amateur Reporting.

That paragraph brings us to 116-03 91st Ave., Richmond Hill 18, Long Island, New York. A glance through the New York City Directory informs us that Eddie Stolzenberger lives at that address . . . and where lives Eddie, lives the BEJ.

Ed Stolzenberger says the Jig-Saw puzzle craze, the one that swept across the nation a few years ago, gave him a good background for preparing the Christmas Issue of the Journal each year. It was the custom, during the Jig-Saw craze, to purchase a two-bit puzzle each day. You rushed through your dinner, lit your favorite pipe and began trying to make something from nothing. A piece here and a chunk there soon did wonders. You were sure to gaze at a complete picture of the Monitor or Merrimac or George Washington or Abraham Lincoln or Stephen Foster or a ferocious lion or Captain Kidd or a spouting whale. You always smiled with satisfaction when the last piece completed the picture . . . "That," explains Editor Stolzenberger, "is precisely the way I feel when the last page goes into the Christmas issue each year!"

"Ed," we said, "just how do you go about getting all that stuff together?"

"Well," he says, "it's like this . . . Millie (that's Ed's better half) and I start the first page over in the south-west corner of our living room . . . We put O. B. Hanson or someone in that corner and set our course due north . . . That side of the room is likely to have the Denver News. The Brush Labs, Kill-fidget's Capers, Bing Crosby and the news items from WPTF . . ."

"Ed," we interrupted, "how large is your living room?"

"Fourteen by twenty-four feet and next we place a fifty dollar ad in the north-west corner and then we head due east . . . Bob Hope, the San Francisco News and quite a few other items take us over to the north-east corner . . . From there we chart a course and head due south. That takes us over to page 145 in the Journal. We have room for another ad in the south-west corner, then we head west. We place a few ads along that wall and finally come to the Cleveland stuff just as we reach the bathroom door!"

Editor Stolzenberger has been skipper of the good ship BEJ for many years. Which reminds us that one should never even consider writing about an Engineer-Editor without mentioning at least one outstanding incident of the subject's childhood days. The incident we mention happened one afternoon during a history-study period.

Ed's teacher perceived that the future Editor-Engineer seemed to be unusually absorbed in his work. "How," wondered she, "can anyone get that wrapped up in ancient history?" She watched Ed for a few moments. She began to get restless. She couldn't stand the suspense of not knowing what he was doing. "Investigate," she ordered herself. She silently walked over to the future Editor's desk.

Eddie gazed proudly at the diagram of the crystal set. The antenna was grounded and the headphones were represented by two little circles held together with a curved pencil mark. Two tubes and some other gadgets, such as condensers and resistors, were represented by peculiar drawings known only to the lovers of circuitlore. Eddie's teacher knew nothing about that kind of lore.

"Eddie," she demanded, looking over his right shoulder, "what in the world is that?"

Ed was momentarily flabbergasted . . . How long had she been standing there? And he wondered if she knew anything about radio? Would she recognize a spark gap if she saw one? "Well," he thought, "there's only one way to find out!"

"That," began Eddie, cautiously, feeling his way like a far-sighted firefly in a pine forest, "that's a rough diagram of the ancient city of Pompeii before the volcano erupted and buried the city with ashes . . ." (Continued on Page Eleven)



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# CLEVELAND

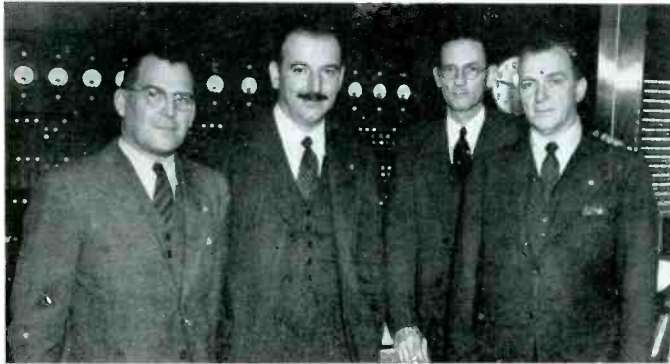


By Bert Pruitt

**A**NYONE, who has been in Uncle Sam's Service, knows that soldiers, sailors and marines snap to attention and cut some fancy capers with their right arms when the generals and admirals pass by.

Civilian ethics are not so complicated and hard on the muscles of the right arm. When a civilian potentate goes by you don't sling your fist to your right eyebrow and stand there like a frozen ice cube.

What we're trying to say is this: George McElrath, NBC Engineering Potentate, and Robert Close, NBC Air Conditioning Potentate, came to Cleveland some time ago. They were on some kind of an inspection trip . . . at least that's what a WGAR engineer said. Well, it's like this. These potentates came in and you never saw so much activity



S. E. Leonard, George McElrath, J. D. Disbrow, and Bob Close

in your life. Men in both departments almost bowled each other over in their willingness to do the hard jobs. No colony of industrious bees ever buzzed with more gusto. Yards of slack disappeared from droopy pants and they almost ran themselves to death and I have been gasping for breath ever since they went back to New York.

## PETE FELICE TIME

Some people are unable to sleep soundly at night if their watches lose or gain ten seconds each month. Pete Felice, air conditioning, never lets such trivial bosh bother him. Pete stopped by the control room the other day. Supervisor Caskey noticed that Pete's watch read 12:30 PM. This disagreed with the MCD clock which said 3:45 PM. Caskey is a second-splitter so you can well imagine how his eyes blinked when he saw this three-hour discrepancy. "Pete," says Caskey, "you'd better set your watch!"

"Why?"

"It's three hours and fifteen minutes slow!"

"That's where you are wrong," says Pete. "The government agencies have been stressing the importance of time. No one should waste valuable time and that includes me. If every worker in the United States stopped to set his watch each day the production of bombers, jeeps and guns would be drastically reduced, so you can see that I would be Helping Hitler and Hirohito if I took the time to set my watch each day!"

"I'm sure you aren't a spy!"

"No, and it really isn't necessary to set your watch. All

you have to do is add three hours and fifteen minutes to my watch and my time is as correct as the Arlington Time Signals!"

"I see," lied Caskey, "but how do you manage to get to work on time?"

"Well Harry, it's like this. . . . When I'm due in at 7 AM I just figure on getting up at 2:30. Then I'm sure of being on time at 3:45."

"Harry scratched his head, thought a moment then said: "If you were a farmer I suppose you'd count all the pig feet in the pen and then divide by four to get the total number of pigs in the pen."

"You're getting impractical and pig's feet have nothing to do with wrist watches. Furthermore, I can set my watch ahead three hours without losing any time!"

Harry said that would be impossible.

"Wrong again," exclaimed Pete. "All I have to do is crook my left arm into a half-moon then the 9 on the dial corresponds to noon and the 12 dial is at 3 PM. My watch is then only 15 minutes slow and I lose only fifteen minutes sleep by getting to work at 6:45 when I'm due at 7!"

"NBC's wasting a lot of money improving their time system," moaned Harry.

## DRAMA AFLOAT

Hugh Walker came in from the transmitter, on a visit, the other day. He and John Willhelm were soon in a bull-session. Out of this session came the following story as told by Hugh.

"I," began Hugh, "was on a battleship several years ago. We had about the toughest gang on that wagon that ever leaned on a swab. You can imagine the surprise of our Captain when he rounded a turret at 2 AM and saw eight or ten seamen kneeling on deck as though saying their prayers. The Captain froze in his tracks and stood as still as a cigar store Indian. Never had the Captain witnessed such a divine scene in all his years at sea. He decided right then to be a little more lenient with the crew in the future. He'd also write a letter to Congress. And letters to WCTU leaders would make the National Headlines. The Captain could already see the glaring headlines: "SAILORS PRAY AT 2 AM!"


A clinking sound brought the Captain from the National Headlines to the deck of the battlewagon. "Hark! That sounds like the rattle of a New Mexico rattler!"

The Captain could recall having heard sounds like that coming from the sage brush when he was a lad 9 or 10 years old. He knew, however, that you never find rattlesnakes on a battleship. "Wonder what it can be?"

"HELL . . . SNAKE EYES!" roared a disappointed seaman.

The Hallicrafters Company announces a reorganization in its Engineering Department. The post of Chief Engineer held by R. E. Samuelson is to be a staff position as part of management instead of a line position reporting to management. F. W. Schor becomes Chief Engineer in Charge of Development and Irving Glerum becomes Chief Engineer in Charge of Production.





# HOW BIG IS A MUTUAL HOOKUP?

In a word, the answer is bigger! It's impossible to be more specific. The size of a Mutual hookup depends first, of course, on the client's marketing area—Mutual being the network most flexibly adaptable to an advertiser's current needs. It also depends on the calendar—Mutual clients having a persistent habit of adding stations to their hookups, month after month and year after year.

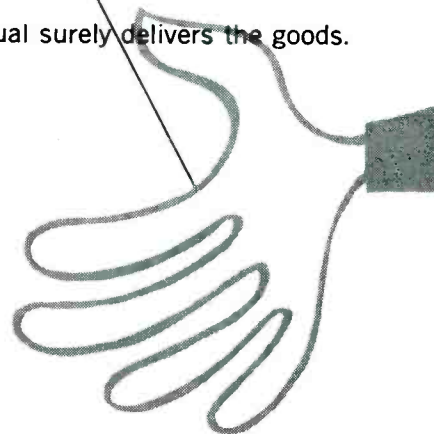
As of this writing, here's the scoreboard for a few Mutual clients:

ADVERTISER	PROGRAM	STARTING HOOKUP	CURRENT HOOKUP
Barbasol	Gabriel Heatter	14	171
Kellogg	Superman	39	200
General Cigar	Raymond Clapper	3	83
Gillette	World Series	119	344*
Pharmaco	Double or Nothing	109	200

\* Even the largest network in the world couldn't accommodate this client's needs, so we lined up a lot of additional, non-Mutual stations, including 50 in Canada.

Whatever the size of the hookup, Mutual surely delivers the goods.

## MUTUAL BROADCASTING SYSTEM



# Elemental Electronics — Part I

## Non-Sinusoidal Waves : : By Jordan McQuay

**P**URE sinusoidal or "sine" waves are the simplest of all recurrent wave shapes, because such waves alternate at a *single* frequency, known as the fundamental frequency. In television and certain other electronic applications, however, waves of other than sinusoidal shape are often encountered: waves of many different and complex shapes. These special or complex waves include square waves, rectangular waves, saw-tooth waves, and peaked waves whose harmonic frequencies may often spread over a considerable range of frequencies.

Any wave which repeats itself at defined time intervals is known as a periodic wave. Complex periodic waves are

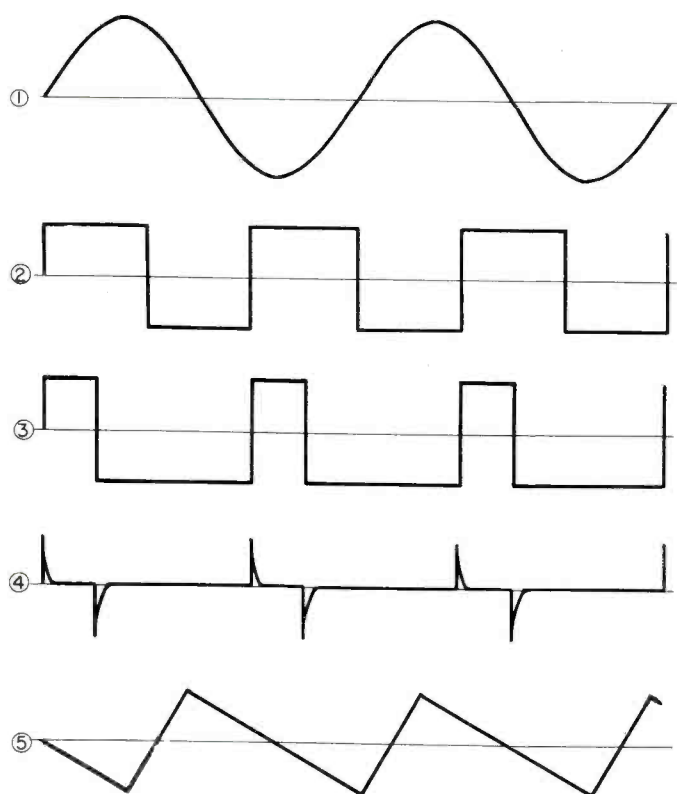


Figure 1 — Typical wave shapes encountered in electronics. (1) Pure sinusoidal wave. (2) Square wave. (3) Rectangular wave. (4) Peaked wave. (5) Saw-tooth wave.

composed of sinusoidal waves of different frequencies and amplitudes added together or combined with each other. By a careful selection of the fundamental sine wave and certain harmonics of this fundamental, almost any complex wave form may be obtained. Several different types of complex recurrent waves are shown in figure 1.

A square or rectangular wave having sharp corners contains a large number of odd harmonic frequencies combined

with the basic fundamental frequency. The addition of more and more odd harmonics, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 11th, 13th, etc., brings the resulting wave shape nearer and near to a perfect square wave. It should be noted that a geometrically perfect square wave having sharply defined corners is only possible when an *infinite* number of odd harmonics is added to the fundamental frequency; this preferred state of perfection can, therefore, only be approached and never quite attained.

A saw-tooth wave is made up of various harmonics added to the fundamental sine wave, each successive harmonic, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, etc., having a smaller and smaller magnitude.

Peaked waves are formed by the addition of certain magnitudes of odd harmonics to the fundamental frequency sine wave.

Almost any shape of complex periodic wave may be formed by the addition of certain harmonics (of certain magnitudes) to the fundamental sine wave. In general, it should be remembered that a steep-sided wave shape is composed of a great many harmonics; the steeper the wave front, the greater the number of harmonics.

Certain complex non-sinusoidal wave shapes used in television, radiolocation, counting circuits and other electronic circuits, do not have equal alternations. The essential point concerning such wave shapes is that a steep wave front indicates the presence of numerous harmonics, and these harmonics have *many times* the frequency of the fundamental. Therefore, if the presence of these harmonics is desirable, there must be no distortion present in the electronic circuit passing these wave forms; in short, all the harmonics must be passed by the circuit *unless* a change in wave shape can be tolerated. In certain electronic applications, a complex wave may be deliberately passed through a highly distortive circuit, to produce extremely complex wave shapes. This procedure, known as *peaking* and *clamping*, will be discussed in a later issue of the Journal.

Non-sinusoidal wave forms will be passed by purely resistive circuits without changing the shape of the wave. However, if the electronic circuit contains reactive elements (capacitive or inductive) the wave shape will be greatly effected, since various reactances present varying amounts of impedance at different frequencies. Since a complex wave contains many different frequencies, certain harmonics of the wave shape will be attenuated more than others, causing uneven and varying distortion. Since inductive and capacitive reactances vary with frequency, the relative amplitudes and phase relations of *parts* of the wave will be changed by such a circuit. In designing electronic circuits which must pass irregular or complex waves, allowance must



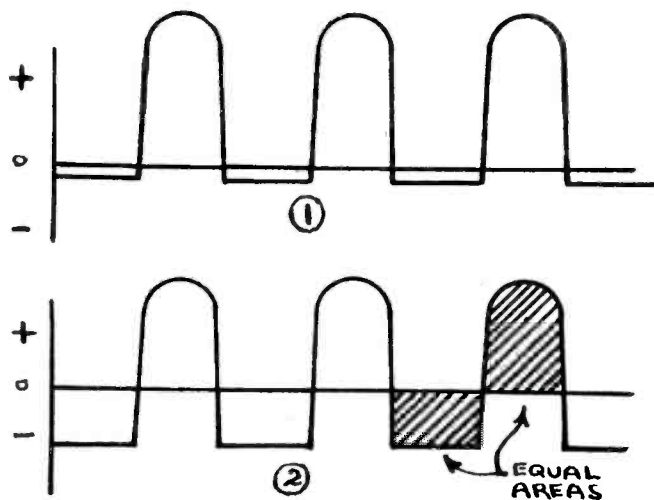


Figure 2 — A Non-Sinusoidal Wave  
 (1) with a-c and d-c components. (2) without d-c component.

always be made for the fact that the harmonics of the wave *must* be passed in proper amplitude and phase if the shape of the wave is to remain unchanged.

The amplification of wave shapes having high harmonic content is a difficult problem in electronics. An amplifier with a fairly flat frequency response up to 50,000 cycles would not be satisfactory; such an amplifier would provide a great deal less amplification of the higher harmonics, thus altering the shape of the output wave. This problem of amplification has given rise to the *video amplifier* for the amplification of non-sinusoidal wave shapes. Video, or wide-band, amplifiers were originally developed for use in television, but have since found an important employment in more highly specialized electronic circuits. The principle of operation, however, remains much the same as in television. Video amplifiers are now in use having fairly uniform frequency response up to 1.5 or 2.0 megacycles. If an "almost-perfect" square wave is passed through such an amplifier, it suffers very little from change in actual wave shape, since the many harmonics necessary to preserve the square wave form are passed by the video amplifier.

In certain electronic applications, to be discussed later, a controlled amount of distortion is permissible and highly desirable. Whereas distortion is not generally desired in audio and radio circuits, it is often purposefully introduced into electronic circuits in order to obtain desired complex wave shapes. Distortion, therefore, plays a very important role in the science of electronics.

A recurrent wave of *any* shape is known as an a-c wave only when it has equal area above and below the zero axis. If this condition is not met, the wave is not pure a-c but a *combination* of a-c and d-c. Figure 2 illustrates a non-sinusoidal wave: (1) with a noticeable d-c component, and (2) with no d-c component. In electronics practice almost any ratio of a-c to d-c may be encountered, and a d-c component may be added to or taken from any recurrent series of wave shapes by the use of special electronics circuits.

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# CHICAGO CHAPTER CHATTER

By Arthur Hjorth

**B**LUE FIELD engineer H. D. Royston, rushed to Chicago hospital early in December with ruptured appendix, was brought home Xmas morning and is speedily recovering. Now that's out, what next?

Apprentice Wilbur Wiggins Blair, theatrically known as Wilson Bradley (Rise and Shine Programs a specialty), can be seen and heard with a newscast over the B&K television station WBKB in Chicago for fifteen minutes one evening a week. A special wide angle lense of short focal length was necessary to encompass all of his 276 pounds.

"Holly" Pierce, Jr., asst. supervisor for CBS in Chicago, has been inducted into the Army. Holly is thirty-five years old and has three children.

WLS engineer Charles Nehlsen is the only male member of the BLUE west coast show BREAKFAST AT SARDI's. Friends (????) sent his name in recently and he was voted "in" on the air and cigars were sent him but to date the cigars haven't arrived.

The year 1943 closed with NBC Supervisor Al Otto being declared the Chicago cribbage champion having defeated ex-champ Joe Alusic a few days before, two games out of three. Al refused to play Joe another game until 1944 in order to retain the diamond studded belt a few days anyway.

H. L. "Pete" CAVANAH, NBC studio engineer formerly on days and now on nites still claims he doesn't get enough sleep. A concerted effort is being made to get Pete married and solve ALL of his problems.

NBC Supervisor "Bill" COLE, states that the end of 1943 saw the reduction of taverns in Skokie to forty-nine and mourns the passing of "the good old days."

Letter from scribe EMERSON SQUIRES at WMAQ transmitter reports in eight paragraphs a dearth of news out there. Dolefully advises that bills for Xmas will start coming in any day now. An active ham from a way back, Emerson is eagerly and anxiously waiting for the go-ahead on post-war amateur radio.

Posted on bulletin board in NBC-BLUE Engineers' Lounge we learn that versatile and very busy Ray Bierman, BLUE, is searching for a 1,000 watt oscillator to work around fifteen megacycles or the makin's thereof. Hint at end of ad darkly suggests that Ray's subterranean workshop is busy designing a death-ray gun for the Jack Armstrong show.

BLUE Engineer W. E. "Bill" BRENNAN has resigned at his doctor's orders for a warmer climate. We all wish you well, Bill.

NBC's night maintenance crew J. F. "MARTY" MARTIN and W. "BILL" SCHOOLEY are busy during their LUNCH PERIOD ONLY writing gags and jokes for WMAQ's 5:30 AM. EARLY BIRD SHOW conducted by Ed. Allen.

Traveling BLUE Engineer E. A. "MAC" MACCOR-MACK, covering the country with Coca-Cola was in Chicago for Xmas according to the "Rainbow" for the day. Anyone see him?

A. E. "ALAN" SCARLETT, versatile recording and studio engineer made the holiday season more colorful by wearing his SCARLET coat for a few days. Much heckled he has tenderly stored the coat until St. Valentine's Day.

With the advent of our accurate tuning-fork clock con-

trol system, soft spoken A. "ANDY" SCHOMAKER can be heard muttering about the two second deviation in NSS's time signals early in the morn.

With the gradual infiltration of Southern engineers, production men, and announcers into the ranks of Chicago's NBC-BLUE staffs, a course in Southern speech, or Yankee language is being seriously considered. HOW YOU'ALL?

## CHICAGO SUPERVISOR IN SERVICE

Capt. Russell B. Sturgis, Chicago's NBC supervisor on-leave, passes thru Chicago periodically going from there to somewhere else. Most recent visit was with wife, daughter and son to attend NBC's annual Xmas party.



Capt. "Russ" Sturgis born at Barnstable, Mass., February 29th, 1908, and has had a variety of jobs but finally settled in radio about 1926. Previous interest dates back to '20, with an elaborate ham rig including Ford coils, crystal detectors, spider webs and honeycombs with Brandes Superiors

at eight bucks a pair.

Since '26 has been ship operator "Sparks", laboratory and testing and broadcast engineering with WMAK at Buffalo and WLS at Chicago before joining NBC in '31. Supervisor in Master Control since '36 or '37 and joined the AAF in February '43.

Really proud of his family and believes each one "pretty special" including the Irish setter.

Previous to the war, hobbies were ham radio and some light plane flying.

Now stationed at the Amphibious Training Base at Norfolk, Va., but seems to be spending quite a bit of time scurrying around the country for the Army Air Force.

William Howard Emery, who has lately been a precision inspector with Douglas, Hughes and other West Coast plane factories, is now with the Universal Microphone Co., Inglewood, Cal., as assistant supervisor of inspection. Floyd Long, radio engineer and instructor for United Airlines at the Oakland Airport, has also joined the staff as a technical engineer in the production control laboratories. He will supervise all company test equipment.

An interesting booklet titled "Manpower, Music and Morale" can be obtained by writing to the Industrial and Sound Department, Radio Corporation of America, Camden, N. J.



## 116-03 91st Avenue

(Continued from Page Five)

"Goodness," exclaimed she, "wasn't that a terrible story . . . I read most of it when I was only a girl of 16 visiting my grandfather's ranch out in Wyoming."

"And this," continued Ed, pointing at the antenna, "is the cage that held the lion in the amphitheater the day Glaucus was condemned to fight the lion with nothing but a stylus."

His teacher was speechless.

"And this," Ed was confidentially pointing his pencil at the headphones, "this is the palace where Ione lived!"

"Did they ever get married?" she questioned, lowering her voice to a mere whisper.

"I thought you said you read the book!" Eddie's mind was functioning in an alert fashion.

"I read all except the last four pages . . . our cat chased a mouse from the attic to the living room . . . the mouse scurried behind my copy of 'The Last Days of Pompeii' . . . The cat attempted to grab the mouse. He missed the mouse and the lightning sweep of his paw removed the last four pages from the book, so I have often wondered if Glaucus and Ione were bound in holy matrimony or whether they perished with the entombed city."

"They got married and lived happy ever after!"

Tears of joy and happiness came to her eyes. Many years of suppressed emotion were released by the tear duct glands that had been near the flood stage ever since she was a sweet young girl of 16 on her grandfather's ranch out in Wyoming . . . "Oh," sighed she, "why couldn't I have lived 17 or 18 centuries ago when men fought lions with nothing except a stylus and courted the ladies fair like Knights of Old!"

It is not our desire to commercialize on sentimentalism in the sustaining pages of the BEJ, therefore, we roll up our sleeve, crank the gears of time and speed from the doomed City of Pompeii to 116-03 91st Ave.

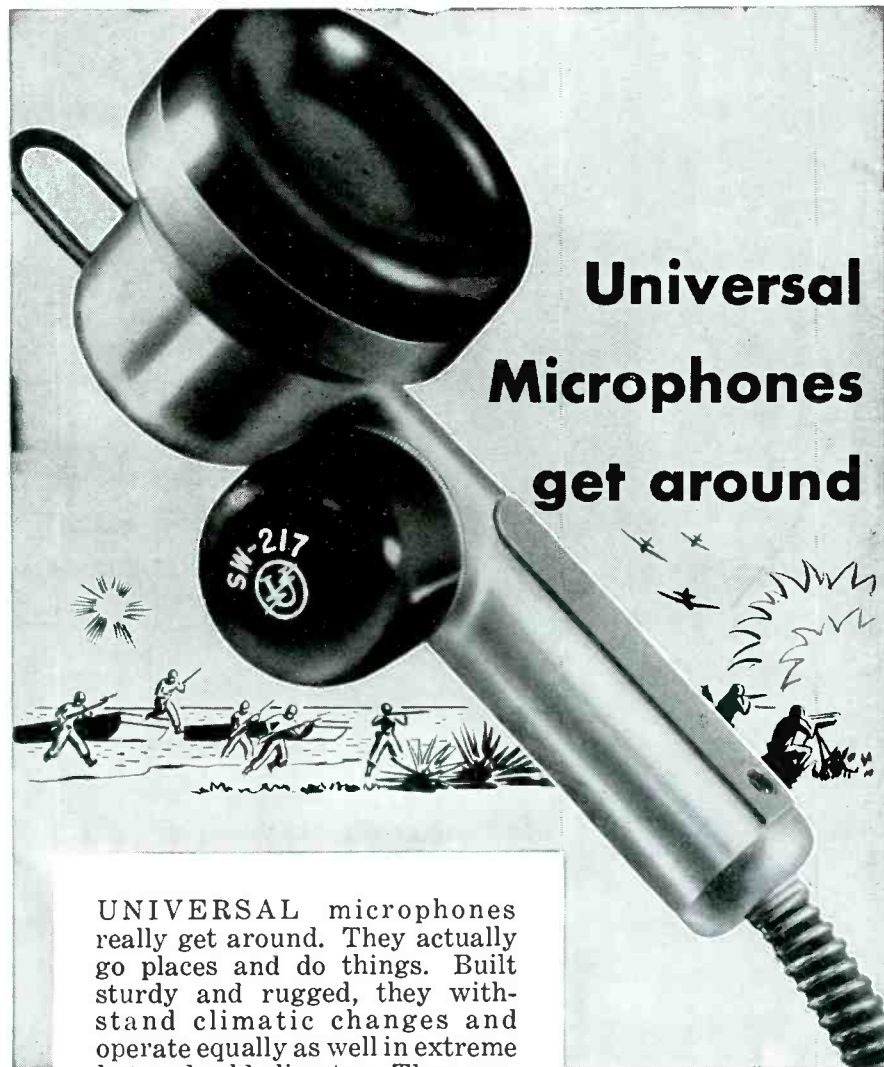
"Eddie," exclaims the postman as he wearily walks toward Ed's mail box, "what the dickens is in all these heavy envelopes from Washington, Chicago, Raleigh, Cleveland, Denver, San Francisco, Hollywood, Los Angeles and all the other places?"

"That," says Ed, realizing it is the fifth of the month, "that's the news from the Associate Editors!"

"Well," says the postman, sitting down to rest his tired dogs, "if weight

(Continued on Page Eighteen)

11 Broadcast Engineers' Journal, January, 1944



## Universal Microphones get around

UNIVERSAL microphones really get around. They actually go places and do things. Built sturdy and rugged, they withstand climatic changes and operate equally as well in extreme hot and cold climates. They represent the latest in scientific achievement and engineering design. Complete microphones, together with jacks, cords, plugs, switches, and other integral parts are made at the new UNIVERSAL plants in Inglewood, California. Today, of course, their production is devoted solely to military items for prime and subcontractors, but, when tomorrow comes, and with it a new standard of living in which voice communication via radio and electronics will play an extremely important part these same instruments, and many new models as well, will once more be available through the usual radio trade channels to a public made even more voice communications conscious than in pre-war days.

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Top (left to right): William O'Neill, President and General Manager; Main Studio; Jerry Roberts, Chief Engineer. Bottom (left to right): Bruce MacDonald, News Editor; Ben Stiller, Prom. Manager; L. A. Gifford, Prod. Manager; Hal Waddell, National Sales Manager.

## WJW Moves to Cleveland

By Bert Pruitt

**WJW** MOVES to Cleveland and the Blue Network has a new outlet! They send out a strong signal on 850 KC with 5000-watts. Their studios are located in the Kenny-Levan Building at 1375 Euclid Avenue. This is in the heart of Cleveland's famed "Play House Square" district.

Chief Engineer Kenny Roberts threw the official switch at 3:30 P.M., Sunday, November 14th. Owner-Manager Bill O'Neill smiled with satisfaction. WJW was on the air from Cleveland and the battle of priorities was over... well, part of it, at least.

We gave them a call the other day. L. A. Gifford (Production Mgr.) answered the phone. We explained who we were and what we wanted. "We will be glad to give you a story for the Broadcast Engineers' Journal", he said. "When?" we questioned. "Now," he answered. We went over.

WJW's studios are as modern as the Military Walkie-Talkie. They have four of them and, if you are interested in the artistic touch, you really ought to give yourself the

treat of seeing them. They have two transcription rooms that include a total of five turntables. The number of offices over there leads the casual observer to believe they are well fortified with executives.

We haven't been out to see their transmitter but we understand their equipment and building would thrill the heart of the most critical transmitter engineer. Rumor has it that its a 5000-watt beauty. Our radio tells us their transmitter carries an ether wallop and our ears telegraph the statement that WJW's programs are easy to listen to. What more could one rightly expect from the faithful transmitter out there in North Royalton?

They straightened us out on a few points. We, prior to going over there, had a vague idea that it is sometimes necessary to check with the FCC before you hop into your Mobile Unit and move your station to another city. They proved that we only thought we knew the meaning of the word "Priority". They gave it a practical definition. The definition reveals the fact that radio equipment and building material

(Continued on Page Fifteen)



# San Francisco

By Bob Shover

**H**I, FELLAS, hope your Christmas was gay and your 1944 schedule contains all the best.

Not all the hams in show biz are bi-peds, in radio most anything can happen (and most frequently does) especially if you are assigned to TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES as FS George McElwain found out. To begin with Mac received a wire from Ralph Edwards asking him to have a portable booth built for future Nemos; the booth built, Mac wired R.E. to that effect and in return received another wire asking him to locate a little pig! Well Mac's been in radio for 18 years, so, undaunted, he hied himself out to a stockyard in search of a piglet with stage appeal. Procuring the porker was comparatively easy; convincing the little fellow that he was only the juvenile in the play and not the whole hog was something else. Having apparently been born without an inferiority complex, and no doubt being a paid up member of A.F.R.A., "RED POINT" as he was appropriately named, refused to behave, much less act except when the spotlight was on him. The chorus gals did not help matters either. They clustered around and admired "Red Point" effusively, much to his delight. (The poor little country hick probably didn't realize he represented a couple dozen ham sandwiches on the hoof.) Whether he became somebody's Sunday dinner or was returned to his playmates and became famous among his colleagues as "THE HAM WHO STOLE THE SHOW" we don't know; but it does seem a shame to think of his accompanying a platter of

eggs, even the kind hens produce.

Speaking of eggs, whoever pilfered the poultry fruit produced by Willie Watson's chickens must have been chagrined. Some low down sneak thief has been helping himself to the eggs from Willie's hen house. Since most of these were setting eggs, Willie decided to substitute glass ones. Well, it must have been a shock when the guy tried to fry one. Anyhow, he hasn't returned for any more.

EE Jefferson needs someone around to yell "Timber"—Recently while working in his eucalyptus grove a branch fell and smacked him on the noggin. Maybe he should borrow one of his kids football helmets.

IS IT SOUND EFFECTS OR ENGINEERING?—Frank Barron doesn't know. The one and only record, NO PROTECTIVE, of a sounder clicking out the name of the sponsor on a certain well known program was broken just before the last broadcast was to go on. It was not worth while to make a new recording for the last shot and being no one in Sound Effects could use the bug, and Frank being a proficient Brass Pounder (having made the record originally) was pressed in to service as the Sound Effects operator for the usual fee.

Jack Van Wart, now a group 2, after serving his apprenticeship in the Recording Department—C. T. Stevens back in the studio group after a six months workout in Recording, and among other things that are happening around the plant—have noticed a "Crystal Ball" on the desk in Recording so the boys can tell what the Traffic dept., Producers and Announcers are going to do. Sure hope it works.

TOP THIS DEPT.—A little girl we know says "A Fine Philosophy" is a little red bicycle. So long.

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# THIS IS MUTUAL . . . *By Herman G. Berger*

## A Brief Message From Your Editor



H. G. Berger

First of all may I wish all my friends and associates in the radio field a Happy and Prosperous New Year. A number of times I have asked for articles from other Mutual stations via the conference call, but I have received very little response. If at anytime you have anything of interest that you would like the other stations to know about, please do not hesitate to send it to me.

## Attention: Remote Engineers

**Y**OUR .07 per mile will look like .007 when you have read this article. We quote:

"Effective November 1st this year we have decided to make a revision in our method of financing you for the use of your car for Company business.

"Certain conditions have changed which we feel make it necessary for us to revise some of our figures, as we believe it is only fair to you and to the Company to do so.

"We will allow you a monthly depreciation figure of \$20.00. And in addition to this an item of \$10.00 per month will be added to cover miscellaneous repairs, in addition to this you will be allowed \$8.00 per month to cover garage rent. The above three figures are flat amounts, which will automatically be added to your expense accounts.

"In addition we will allow you your oil and gas, radiator anti-freeze and miscellaneous greasing jobs on a percentage basis, just as we have done in the past. Heretofore, the Company has carried Liability and Property Damage Insurance on your car, which was also figured on a percentage basis, but we have never included Fire and Theft and Collision Insurance in this set-up. Effective immediately your car is being insured by the Company for Fire and Theft Insurance on its actual value, and is being insured for Collision Insurance to the extent of \$50.00 deductible coverage.

"In view of the above it would be our suggestion that you immediately take steps to cancel any fire and theft and collision Insurance you are now carrying on your car as we will not allow you fire, theft and collision insurance unless it is carried on our Company's blanket policy, and you of course, understand that by carrying this on a blanket policy we are able to make a saving in the cost of this insurance."

The name of the firm which sent out this communication is being withheld by the writer.

## Veteran Wireless Operators Association Get-Together

Boisterous, perhaps—happy, reminiscent *definitely*, approximately 100 old-time W/T ops of the Veteran Wireless Operators Association played host to present day radio representatives of each of the Armed Services and the Merchant Marine at a real get-together at the 77th Division Club, 28 East 39th Street, New York City (and put that address down in your address book as they will have a regular meeting night there each month) on Tuesday evening, November 30th, last. The password was "Stag—No Women" and as a result the air was salty. It was a lucky date, for it was pay day for many, so Treasurer Simon had little difficulty securing almost enough to pay the entire bill.

Through the kind efforts of "Jack" Poppele, Chief Engineer of WOR, and the Artists' Bureau of WOR, we were regaled with songs led very ably by a real operator on the stomach Steinway, who marched up and down the aisle between the long tables like a piper of old regenerating the rusty tubes of the old-timers into what passed for song. The Mademoiselle from (military secret); the extremely lengthy highway to Tipperary and other ballads of the oldtime World War mingled with songs of today, when they pack sulphanimide instead of troubles in the old kit bag.

Seated at the Speakers' table from left to right were: Lt. Cmdr. A. F. Wallis, Executive Officer of the Maritime Radio Training Station at Huntington, N. Y., who told of his experiences at the Messina earthquake for which he received a decoration from the Italian Red Cross; J. R. Poppele, Chairman of the Entertainment Committee in which he did a grand job; Commander Fred Muller, USNR, Chairman of our Board of Directors, who delivered a fine little talk on the principles of The Association; William J. McGonigle, VWOA President and Toastmaster, who had to cab all the way over from Brooklyn because of a broken foot; Lt. Littenberg, USN, a guest of Cmdr. Muller's; Lt. Cmdr. McWhorter, also a guest of Cmdr. Muller's and the man who was probably first in the U. S. Navy to receive a distress call—way way back; C. D. Guthrie, Supervisor of Radio for the Maritime Commission.

A little early perhaps, the Association played Kris Kringle to two representatives of each of the Armed Services. Representing the Marine Corps, we had Staff Sergeant P. G. Bakutes, who trained in radio almost twenty years ago at Quantico, Va.; Corp. Phil Feiler, who was also trained in radio at Quantico and just recently returned from the Solomons; from the Army we had Pete Podell's son, Technical Sergeant Podell; Sgt. Alphonse Pare' and Sgt. Frake; from the Navy, Dennis W. Laudon RM3C, who was the lucky winner of the fine McElroy Speed Key, donated by Ted McElroy, President of the McElroy Corp. Radioman Laudon expressed the wish that he may soon learn to use the key at something near Ted's speed records; Bill Risberg, RM3C, USN, who on his card said "Got in the Navy. Heard a great deal about Radio, went to a Navy Service School at Great Lakes. Like the work and intend to stay in it after the War. (Thanks for the swell time.)" From the Coast Guard we had Wm. A. Irvington RM1C, who was a veteran of the Marine Corps, but likes the Coast





(1) Ed Content, Assistant Chief Engineer, WOR  
 (2) Mutual Journal Editor Berger

(3) Jack Poppele, Chief Engineer, WOR  
 (4) First Lt. Charles Davidson, just returned from overseas

Guard now and Radio Striker McDermott; from the Merchant Marine Lt. Clifford L. Folsom and Lt. F. C. Krushina, both of whom have seen active service at sea, unfortunately time did not permit hearing their stories. Each of the Service men were guests of the Association at this fine corned beef and cabbage party with all the beer and pipes and 'baccy one could ask for. The Association presented each of them with several cartons of cigarettes.

Among those present: The F.C.C. represented by Peter Podell, VWOA founder, and Mr. Hedges, Intercept Officer in the New York area and Charles B. Reynolds, Radio Inspector at F.C.C. headquarters in N. Y. In addition to Jack Poppele, WOR was represented by Charles Singer, recently returned from an important government assignment; Edward J. Content, in radio since 1917, when he was with the Rainbow Division of the Army and later was in the Coast Guard; Herman G. Berger, WOR Control Engineer who started back in the spark days and is the owner of the first tube modulated over WJZ; First Lt. Charles Davidson, on leave from WOR, who just returned from 20 months of overseas duty, Antilles Department; John Campbell, L. Biederman, G. P. Houston guests of WOR and Geo. Robinson and Edmund Franke from the WOR Technical Staff at Carteret.

The Navy was well represented with Lieutenants Steele, Price and Cole; Joseph D. Laurent, Principal Radio Engineer, Brooklyn Navy Yard, a pioneer in radio since 1912, a former associate of Doc de Forest's; Ensign Moss, who did some fancy work at the piano and Ensign Gregory; G. E. Olson, Radio Electrician, USN, who first started in radio in 1920, "but don't know the reason why." Mackay

Radio was represented by E. H. Price, who first entered radio in 1908.

The Veteran Wireless Operators Association will celebrate its 19th anniversary with a grand Dinner-Cruise at the Hotel Astor in New York City on Saturday evening, February 12, 1944. All will go to charity.

## WJW Moves to Cleveland

(Continued from Page Twelve)

are pretty scarce since Hitler and Hirohito began dancing with the World Supremacy itch. Help, it seems, isn't the easiest thing in the world to find. And they made it perfectly clear that transmitters aren't being put in your stockings by dear old St. Nick during these days of flu epidemics and gasoline rationing. The honorable Mr. Webster defines "priority" as follows: "Quality or state of being prior." They gave the word credit for being more complicated than that!

And it seems that its necessary to do a bit of travelling before you can give the official sign-on from a new location. This must be done to cause harmony and contentment down in Washington.

The old saying "All's well that end's well" seems to have been written especially for WJW and the Blue Network. Their moving headaches will soon be a thing of the past and they're going strong on the Blue Network. The Cleveland radio audience is sure to appreciate the many fine programs being produced by WJW and the Blue, and The Broadcast Engineers' Journal wishes them "Smooth Kilo-cycling."

# WPTF—Raleigh

By Rex Coston

**A**MONG the holiday visitors to drop in at WPTF were the Army's T-Sergeant Bob Royal and Pfc. Frank Colvert. Both men were formerly of the engineering staff and both are now teaching radio in the army. Bob, who left the station about a year ago, is in New Orleans instructing the maintenance of aircraft radio. Before Frank was inducted last May at Fort Bragg he was in the control room as well as at the transmitter. He is now an instructor at the Advanced Radio Training School, Ferrying Division, Air Transport Command at Nashville, Tennessee.

*Yes, This Is the Sunny South*

On December 17 there was a celebration in commemoration of the fortieth anniversary of the first flight by man of heavier than air craft, more specifically, by the Wright brothers at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. NBC had planned a special program, part of which WPTF was to originate from Kitty Hawk.

The day before the broadcast a party of four men started on the trip to the coast of North Carolina. In the car were chief engineer Henry Hulick, Alton Tripp (CS), NBC's special events producer Jack Hill, and Carl Goerch, local commentator and editor of THE STATE magazine.

Tripp was driving at a snail's pace that morning be-

cause the road was almost a solid sheet of glass. Just before they reached Rocky Mount the car skidded out of control, crashed into a low abutment of a bridge, slid down the road about twenty feet, and landed in a gully—with the wheels pointing toward heaven. Goerch commented later, "I thought for a little while that the four of us were pointing in the same direction!" If the car had not hit the bridge we might have had a broadcast of an angel flight instead of an airplane flight, for they would have plunged into a creek just below.

After they had pulled themselves from the wreckage Tripp said that he thought his arm was sprained. X-rays made at a Rocky Mount hospital showed that his shoulder had been dislocated. They left Tripp in the hospital and the other three again started on their way to Manteo.

The roads were getting worse and the snow deeper. A few miles past Elizabeth City they saw a man standing in the middle of the road waving for them to stop. His car had run off the pavement and he wanted to know if the fellows would help him get back on. The snow was five or six inches deep by this time, and their shoes all had low tops. Jack



... But Mr. Hulick said you had a grid leak in yo office so ah thought ah'd better mop it up!

Hill said that his feet were already cold and wet, but that he wouldn't mind helping if he only had some overshoes. The unexpected answer came back, "That's OK, I've got a brand new extra pair right here in the car." So Hill got the shoes and Hulick and Goerch got out and helped push the car without benefit of overshoes. After several unsuccessful attempts to move the car they left the man in the same predicament that they had found him. After going on down the road for several miles Hulick and Goerch began to complain that their feet were cold. Hill said that his weren't cold at all, then he stopped all of a sudden and looked at his feet. No wonder his feet were warm—he still had on the stranger's overshoes.

The three pioneers pushed on through the snow drifts, getting stuck, getting out and shoveling, but finally reaching Kitty Hawk and Manteo shortly before midnight. After all the excitement, trouble, and weather that these men had braved to get to Kitty Hawk so that the show might go on, they found that their portion of the program had been canceled—because it was impossible for anyone to get to Kitty Hawk. Hmm, did I say this is the sunny South.

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## HOLLYWOOD NEWS

By  
Bob Jensen

THE Rose Bowl game is history, Mobile Unit No. 6 is back in the garage and the crew have the equipment all unpacked and put back on the shelf in the Field shop. Joe Kay, Bob McGauhey, Art Brearley and Harry Bryant did the dirty work and managed to run up a score 29-0 against Washington with USC coming out on top. There wasn't any parade this year but they crowned a queen just the same and had the regular ceremony at the Pasadena Civic auditorium on the Thursday preceeding the game. NBC was on hand to introduce the Queen and all of nobility in true NBC fashion. Al Nicolay was extremely happy about the outcome of the game, he should be, the \$25 Recording Room Pool came out in his favor.

WEATHER has been wonderful, and still is, roses are in bloom everywhere, and are \$10 a dozen in the florist shops (Good old California). Winter orange crop is about to be picked and everybody has a loaded tree in their back yard. Speaking of being loaded, Lew Winkler tells us that he didn't pass out New Year's Eve this year, several other cases we won't discuss. Getting back to the weather, might mention that the hills are covered with snow after a good rain in the low country, and that California would do well to install a few storm sewers—or make row boats available.

CHRISTMAS was good to the Studio Engineers with War Bonds being the favorite gift. Bonds ranged all the way up to \$100, which proves that at least some of the shows appreciate the efforts of the engineer. George Foster, Kay Kyser dial twister, is sporting a snappy hand spun Irish top-coat, sez Kyser is a right swell Santa Claus. Incidentally, he goes to Catalina Island this week with the show and has

been spending spare time being fingerprinted and photographed—FBI is keeping track of these guys. We have been trying to get George to write of his experiences and problems encountered on the Kyser show. Charlie Norman has been getting around a lot with Bob Hope. Recently to Mare Island, Fort Ord, Yuma, and San Diego. At Mare Island he saw Bob Brooke and tried to put him to work, but had no luck as Brooke didn't want to get that 1½ stripe suit dirty. At Yuma, the Colonel threw a terrific banquet and topped it off by giving each member of the troop some samples of hard-to-get wartime items to take home. Charlie said some of it came in bottles. A freshly shot deer was wheeled in and it was announced that the critter would be carved to order if anybody wanted to take samples home. Imagine!

## Blue Doings

By  
Norman Dewes

SIGNS OF THE SEASON . . . raincoats and slickers hanging in profusion in the locker room . . . mail boxes in the lounge stuffed with fishing tackle catalogs . . . painters going about patching up last year's nicks and scratches in preparation for building's annual facial . . . daily greetings of " . . . Hello, Joe . . . say, do you know where I can get some ——— ?" (insert gas, nylons, steaks, bourbon, etc. to fit case) . . . doubling up of schedules due to flu victims . . . plaintive queries re: new "simplified" tax forms . . . voices in the wilderness (Studios "L" and "M" to be exact) crying " . . . wherein'ell is Hop Harrigan?" . . . much unlocking and careful locking of lockers, with packages of sundry shapes and sounds being stowed away, some emitting pleasant gurgling sounds . . . a buck cover charge at

(Continued on Page Eighteen)

# HALLICRAFTERS *Was Ready!*

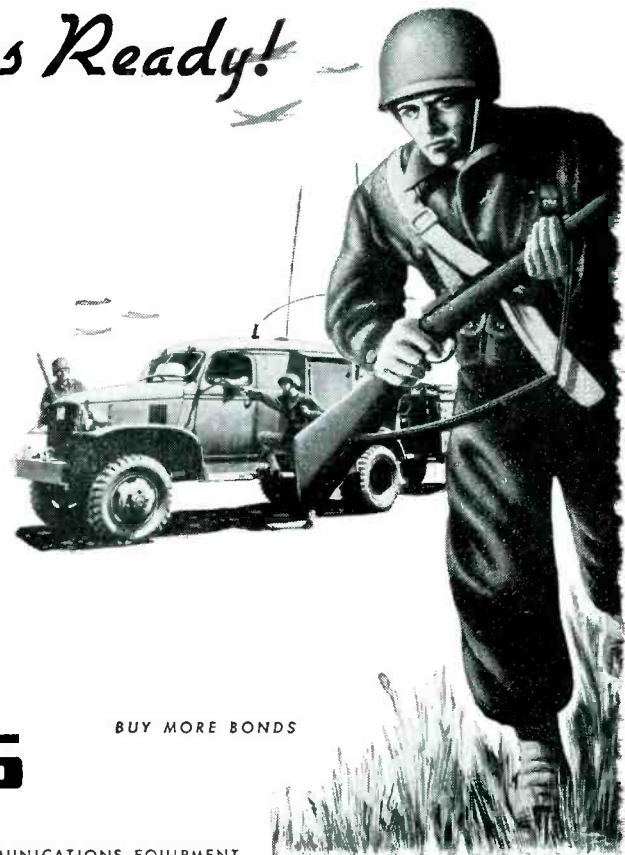
Under the abnormal climatic and operating conditions of war, the Signal Corps SCR-299 communications truck, built by Hallicrafters, is providing peak performance for the Allied armed forces, fighting throughout the world.

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## BLUE DOINGS

(Continued from  
Page Seventeen)

the across-the-street bowling alley bistro New Year's Eve.

WEATHER . . . mornings, in the Valley, strictly "long underwear" . . . evenings, on the Boulevard, strictly "top-coat" . . . days . . . a host of little golden droplets, shining in the sun . . ." (Note: To Hollywood C. of C.: Where's my check for last month?")

EVERYBODY, or nearly, enjoying nice Xmas gifts, which were passed around to all and sundry. Despite the avowed shortage of giggle syrup, many 5th of "that stuff" in evidence. Also some war bonds, some cash and quite a few

lovely cards. Highlight of the proceedings, however, was the gift from the star of one of the top shows (on another network) to each member of the cast and orchestra . . . a chance on a turkey, to be raffled off among the boys . . .

WE WELCOME Frank Marx, formerly chief of WMCA New York City, as Blue Technical Advisor, a newly created post under the new Blue set-up. According to plans being made for Television, FM and new studios as soon as the war's over, Mr. Marx will be a busy guy. We also extend a warm welcome to Roy E. Larson of "Time, Inc." and Chester J. LaRoche, formerly of Young and Rubicam, to the Blue family of stockholders.

## 116-03 91st Avenue

(Continued from Page Eleven)

and bulk mean anything, those fellows must be as prolific as Mark Twain or O. Henry!"

"'Huckleberry Finn' was a good book, eh?"

"Yes, and it looks like rain so I must be getting along."

"Eddie," calls Millie, "Cleveland's on the phone . . . they want to know if you can use a fifteen-page story on the history of the Cleveland Metropolitan Park System?"

"Who's writing it?"

"B.P."

"Tell him we would be delighted to use it if it weren't for the paper shortage."

Those are just a few of the headaches that go with the job of being responsible for turning out an issue each month. Ed has to read every line of the Associate News in order to guard against changing history when a poor typist fights the war of 1812 in the 9th Century. And he sometimes finds it difficult to decide whether the writer is trying to be funny, serious or normal.

His job as Editor has proved to be educational in many respects. Ed always

knew that certain localities have definite slang and dialects. It was something of a surprise to him, however, to learn that places such as Cleveland have their own unique systems of spelling. To wit: In New York, the word "likable" is spelled "likable." The Cleveland correspondent spells it "likeable." That, no doubt, is due to the unusual amount of chlorine they put in the drinking water out there. Too much chlorine would easily make one forget the "g" and "c" rule that determines whether or not you put an "e" before able.

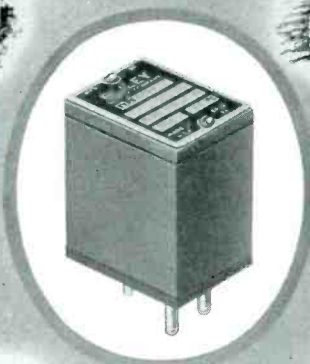
We mentioned something about the paper shortage and that reminds us that there must be a final period to signify an ending to any story, document, essay or yarn. Before we jab that period let's congratulate Ed on the fine job he's been doing as Editor of the Journal.

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## Bliley Crystals

## FCC REPORT No. 1480 (72262)

December 8, 1943

Applications for renewal of commercial television broadcast station licenses:

CBS, New York	WCBW
NBC, New York	WNBT
GE, Schnectady	WRGB
Balaban-Katz, Chicago	WBKB

Applications for renewal of experimental television broadcast station licenses:

GE, Schnectady	W2XGE
GE, New Scotland, NY	W2XI
Don Lee, Los Angeles	W6XDU
Don Lee, Los Angeles	W6XAO
NBC, New York	W2XBW
NBC, New York	W2XBT
Zenith, Chicago	W9XZV
Balaban-Katz, Chicago	W9XBT
Balaban-Katz, Chicago	W9XBB
Balaban-Katz, Chicago	W9XBK
Balaban-Katz, Chicago	W9XPR
Telev Prod, Los Angeles	W6XYZ
Du Mont, New York	W10XKT
Du Mont, New York	W2XWV
Du Mont, New York	W2XVT



## Escapading at the Eldorado . . . *By Bert Pruitt*

**A**T THE END of the Monday December 20th work day, WTAM's employees checked their trivial troubles under the blades of the revolving door when they left the NBC building. The revolving door pinned the discarded troubles to the floor and everyone's nerves relaxed and they became as happy as larks in a timothy field.

You never saw a more congenial congregation of fun-loving-kilocycle-escapaders. Musicians slapped engineers on the back, accompanying the slaps with verbal salvos such as, "Pal, you're a genius!" Engineers joined the cannonading and fired salvos that informed the world that musicians should go down in history as upholders of one of the greatest professions ever upheld.

Salesmen tried to sell national advertising to stenographers and the outlook of the war looked extremely favorable from the Eldorado Club. The Christmas Holidays were discussed and the fact was definitely established that all WTAM employees are firm believers in Santa Claus.

Someone brought up the subject of the flu epidemic and it soon became obvious that WTAM's employees will do all that is humanely possible to combat and defeat any germ that shows signs of gnawing it's way through someone's vest. Your eyes would have stuck out like two concord grapes hanging on a grape vine if you could have seen the methods used to combat the flu epidemic at the Eldorado Club. Patients diagnosed the case, handed their prescriptions to a dignified looking medicine mixer wearing a spotless white apron, waited impatiently while the prescriptions were filled, then washed their mouths with the infallible and potent medicine that is guaranteed to kill flu germs deader than a tubeless field amplifier.

The flu epidemic soon became a thing of the past. The subject turned to Jamaica Rum and you might as well discuss the tax situation when Rum is mentioned. The tax situation gave way to lengthy debates along the pro and con trails that lead you smack-drab into import duties. Import duties reminded one studio engineer of embargoes and embargoes reminded a transmitter man of the war of 1812. This reminded an announcer of pirate ships and the Jamaica Rum reminded him of Cuba so he naturally brought up the subject of a scarlet fever plague that swept the decks of a pirate ship carrying contraband rum into Cuba during the war of 1812. . . . This caused a cloud of fear of sweep across an otherwise faultless blue sky. Should WTAM's employees stand motionless like telephone poles while the scarlet fever germs did their deadly work? Not on your life! "Down with the scarlet fever epidemic!" shouted an engineer. "Let's scorch the tails of the scarlet fever gremlin!" "Here's How!" "Down the Hatch!" "Here's looking at You!" "Bottoms Up" were some of the orders bravely shouted at the approaching plague.

Whether "down the hatch" or "here's mud in your

eye" did it no one knows. And who cares? The epidemic lasted less than five minutes and no one died—thanks to the foresightedness and medical knowledge of WTAM's employees for killing the epidemic before it had a chance to spread to your fair city!

After the dangers of the scarlet fever plague had passed, everyone had a heck of a good time. Each person shook hands with everyone at least five times and wished all a Merry Christmas not less than seven times!

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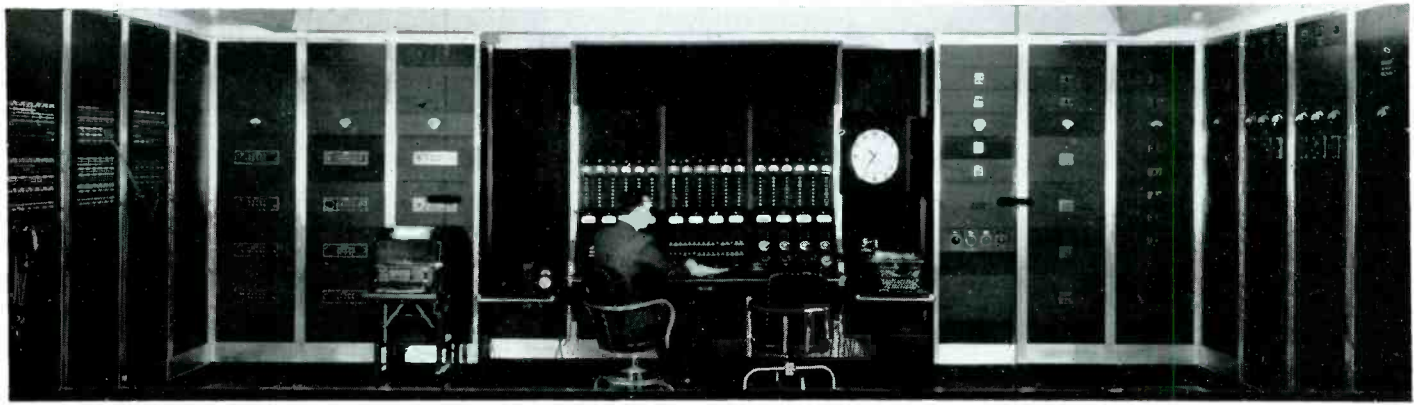
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## Notes from the Nation's Station

WLW-WSAI-WLWO-WLWK  
By BOB BROCKWAY

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This month's item is a greeting to all Journal readers; that is, all the Journal readers who start in the upper left hand corner of the copy and read down the left side of that column and then continuing from top to bottom on the other column. This is double-feature month, you not only get the greeting, but if you read the items as nature intended, you will learn of the New Year's resolutions made by each member of the Crosley Square studio engineering crew.]

**H**OFF promises not to lock the boys out of the master control when Mr. Anthony is on the air.

**A**TWOOD resolves not to store wooden crates in MC while a rabbit hutch project is under construction.

**P**HIL UNDERWOOD, in 1944, will complete his gigantic chess set with the three-foot chessmen.

**P**lease, says LOU BARNETT, I won't use more mikes on a show than there are outlets in the studio.

**Y**OUNG agrees to keep the boys happy with more art and literature for their further education.

**N**EIL will refrain from having our semi-professional photographers help him with his bulb-squeezing.

**E**ARP resolves to resign himself to the fact that it was Lee who surrendered so many years ago.

**W**HEELER will keep his car out of the way of streetcars in 1944, especially *moving* streetcars.

**Y**ea verily, shouts JOHN BRILL, I will keep out of the way of men on motorcycles when doing over 35.

**E**ARL HERZOG won't regale the boys with stories of his prowess as a plain dirt gardener.

**A**UGHENBAUGH promises faithfully not to deliver his lecture on Colorado railroadin' this year.

**R**OGERS' resolution is not to take out the mobile-unit without first checking the petrol supply.

**F**or 1944, Supervisor CHARLEY BUTLER promises to give all the boys day shifts with weekends off.

**R**ANDOLPH BAER swears that after the 1944 deer season, he will treat all hands to venison—mebbe.

**O**h most worthy HEISER (he makes the schedules), you are unimpeachable; you are superb. Salaam!

**M**ADILL agrees to give his surplus service work to the College Hill bunch who are having it tough.

**T**he intrepid LEN CLIFT of maintenance resolves to continue his good work of keeping the gear in order.

**H**AMILTON'S resolutions would fill a bushel basket, but he promises some cartoons for the Journal in '44.

**E**vents (public & otherwise) engineer CONLON will carry a transmitter with him at all times in case of line failure.

**G** BERNARD COOK, Maintenance, promises to complete the soap-opera elimination filters in 1944.

**A**L SCHWERLING painfully resolves to stay off of high ladders during this year, having been spilled in '43.

**N**UNGESSER agrees to finish reading his "Alaska" book so the studio library can have some new titles.

**G**LENN MERRIAM will not make any more secret rooms out of Mrs. M.'s pet linen-closet.

**A**s old year wanes, HERB CRAWFORD agrees to take end of ball game on WSAI daily without whimpering.

**T**he Dayton kid, JACK CHENOWETH, resolves to check which record is playing before switching off turntables.

**W**ILL CODDING, the clothes-horse, will refrain from buying loud suits in '44 and stick to reds and yellows.

**L**AMKIN will resign his post as Vice-President-in-charge-heckling Hoff on Sunday nights.

**W**ARNER HARTMAN resolves not to bring any more limburger cheese to the engineers' annual picnic.

**&** BOB HENLEY has a resolution, too. It is to be kind to the "hillbillies" at 5 A.M.

**W**ILLIAM MAHONEY, music-master, promises to sell some of the arrangements he worked on last year.

**S**YMONS, President of IBEW Local 1224 resolves to make all the new contracts the best in the business.

**A**nd reflecting on the past, DON HOGE says that in 1944 he will be a real good boy.

**I**, BROCKWAY, extend to all our readers best wishes for a happy, prosperous, and victorious 1944.





# As Balalaikas Play

**T**hrough the dark days of war the Russians continue to patronize and value their arts. Painting, dancing, music are not forgotten. The tunes of the balalaikas still comfort heavy hearts.

The balalaika is the Russian counterpart of our guitar. Physically it is more primitive in form . . . its triangular shape being the predecessor of the curved form of the guitar. But the manner in which it is played, and the melody it produces are much the same.

The quality of the tone of the balalaika is sympathetic . . . almost sad. Studio engineers find they can duplicate its haunting refrains perfectly with Advance Glass Base Recording Blanks. They can please listening audiences and satisfy their own rigid requirements by using these fine blanks for transcription. Have you tried Advance Blanks?

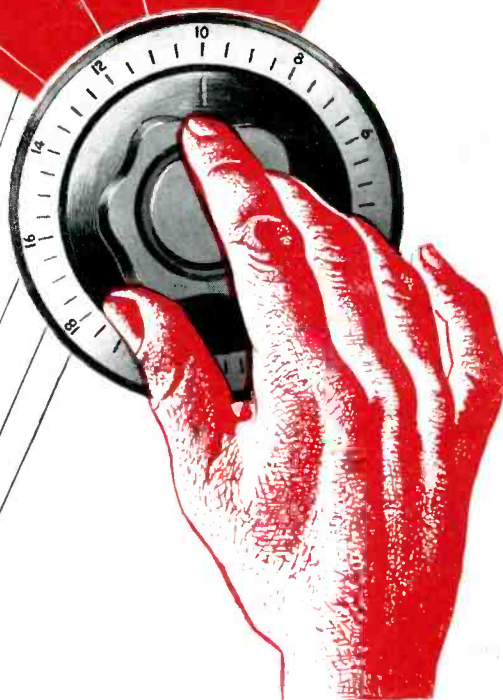
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